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Venice, January 19. N. S.

Letters from Mantua of the 15th Instant say, the French have taken the Post of *Bondanello* from the Germans; and are now making a Line of Circumvallation round *Bersello*, in order to begin a formal Siege of that Fortrels, as soon as the Weather permits. The Germans make frequent Incursions into the Dutchy of Mantua, from whence they return with good Booty; and they interrupt the Navigation of the Po, which proves a great Inconveniency to the French, who used to bring Provisions down that River to several of their Quarters; The latter have thereupon reinforced the Garrison of *San Benedetto*; They have also built a Bridge over the Po at *Sachetto*. The Germans are finishing with all possible Diligence their Line from *Torre di Saravello* to *Ostiglia*; this will greatly contribute to the Security of this last Place, which is of great Importance to them for keeping open their Communication with Germany.

Lisbon, January 27. Her Majesty's Ship the *Montague* failed from hence this day, with 16 English Merchant Ships, for *Oporto*. Letters from *Port St. Mary's* say that since the Quarrel which happened lately, between the French Soldiers belonging to some Gallies which lay in that Port, and the Spanish Forces quartered there, the French Merchants who were settled in that Town have been forced to retire from thence, not being able to walk in the Streets, without receiving Affronts from the Spaniards.

Vienna, January 20. On the 16th Instant a Conference was held in the King of the Romans's Apartment, whereat he was present, together with the Count de *Manfeldt* President of the Council of War, the Prince of *Salm*, Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy*, the Count de *Saltsbourg*, Count *Breiner* Commissary General, and Count *Schlick*, who is to command the Troops which are to act on this side against the Elector of *Bavaria*; and his Majesty has since held several Conferences, to concert Matters in relation to that Expedition. The Forces which are to attack that Elector on the side of *Swabia* and *Franconia* will consist of above 2000 Imperial Horse, drawn out of the nine Regiments of Horse that are employed on the *Rhine*, to which the Circle of *Swabia* adds 600 Foot of the Regiment of *Reischach*, and 1200 Men of the Regiment of *Isselbach*, who have already taken Post on the *Danube*, being in Garrison at *Neubourg*; the Circle of *Franconia* is also to join as many of their Foot as they can possibly spare: The General Officers named at first to command this Body were, Count *Sturum* as Felt-Marshal, Count *Cronsfeldt* as General of the Horse, Count *Pally* as Lieutenant General, and the Marquis of *Cusani* as Major General; and the Margrave of *Baden* and the Duke of *Wurtemberg* have since been added to them, with the Commissions of Lieutenants General, who will bring in Troops of their own, so that this Detachment will consist of above 10000 Men, who will be in a readiness at their Rendezvous at *Gemund* in *Swabia* by the latter end of this Month: As to the Forces that are to attack *Bavaria* on this side, above 12000 new-raised Soldiers have already been mustered near *Lintz*, which are forming into Battalions, besides Count *Schlick's* Regiment of Dragoons, the Prince of *Hanover's* Regiment of Cuirassiers, and 1500 Hussars from *Hungary*, whereof 300 are already passed by this City, in their way to *Lintz*: Orders are also sent to the Saxon and other Forces in *Bohemia*, that are to be employed in the same Service, to be in a readiness to take the Field upon the first notice they shall receive. An Express arrived here lately from Count *Straatman*, the Emperor's Envoy to the King of *Poland*, with an Account of that King and the Republick's having ac-

cepted the Emperor's Mediation for restoring Peace in the North. The King of *Prussia* has sent hither the Ratification of the Treaty of Alliance between him and this Court, whereby he enters into the Grand Alliance. Letters from *Constantinople* of the 26th of November say, the Porte has by vigorous Orders hindered the French from buying up Corn in the *Archipelago*, so that about 100 of their Ships which came thither to lade Grain, were forced to return home empty. By the Advices from *Adrianople* of the 12th of the last Month we are informed, That the *Tartars* have desired Leave to attack the *Muscovites*, under pretence that the latter have built some Forts within the Territories belonging to the *Cossacks*; but the Porte would not consent to it; and it is thought their Han will be removed, and another put into his Place, who may govern those People with greater Tranquillity.

Berlin, January 27. The King of *Prussia* is at present at *Potsdam*, and intends to continue his Journey to *Magdebourg* on the 31st Instant. The Minister of the Princes of the House of *Brunswick Lunenburg* has acquainted this Court, That the Duke of *Celi* being informed, that there were great Misunderstandings between the Magistrates and the Burghers of *Hildesheim*, fomented by evil disposed Persons, with intent to bring about some Designs which were highly prejudicial to the Common Cause, and particularly to the Tranquillity of that City and Country, his Highness had thought himself obliged, as one of the Directors, and as Colonel of the Circle of the *Lower Saxony*, wherein the Bishoprick of *Hildesheim* is comprehended, to put some of his Forces into that City, in order to disappoint those Contrivances. Letters from *Warsaw* of the 16th Instant give an Account, That the Princes of the House of *Sapieha* arrived there the day before, with Monsieur *Wachslager*, one of the King of *Sweden's* Councillors of State; and that several Troops of *Swedish* Horse were also come thither: That a Diet of the several Palatinates of the Country of *Rusland* was assembled at *Wisnia*, to consider of the Proposal made to them by General *Steinboch*, That they would declare for the King of *Sweden*; And their Resolutions in so weighty an Affair are expected with great Impatience, since they may have a great Influence upon the rest of the Kingdom of *Poland*. General *Meydel*, with the Body of *Swedish* Forces under his Command, continues to proceed, though by slow Marches, towards *Thoon* in *Prussia*, where the King of *Poland* still keeps his Court.

Coblentz, January 28. The Allies have posted 800 Men in the Town of *Traerbach*, the taking of which, according to our last Advices, cost them no more than a Captain and 10 Soldiers killed. The French are still in possession of the Castle, whose Cannon commands the Town, but dare not make use of that Advantage, a Message having been sent them, That if they fire one Shot against it, all the Prisoners taken from them at the Storming of that Place shall immediately be put to death. In the mean time the Allies are making the necessary Preparations for attacking the Castle, which is not in a condition to hold out long. We have an Account, That the French are drawing Forces out of their Garrisons near the *Moselle*, in order to form a Body of 15000 Men, to be commanded by Lieutenant General *Varennes*; but upon what Design is not yet known, only by their taking no heavy Bagage with them, it is judged they are to be employed in some sudden Expedition; and the French have lately made a Bridge over the *Saar* at *Saarebourg*, over which it is said these Troops are to pass.

Frankfort, January 28. The Marshal de *Villars* is come to *Strasbourg*, where it is said he expects Letters from the Elector of *Bavaria*, intending to begin some Enterprize in concert with him, in order to give a Division